

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**The Maryland Department of Natural Resources**  
**Fishing and Boating Services**  
*Evans Harvest Reserve Area (Somerset County) — Effective 1/2/2020*

**WHAT THIS NOTICE DOES**

The Secretary of the Maryland Department of Natural Resources announces the opening of Evans Harvest Reserve Area to oyster harvest.

**AREA OPENED**

Evans Harvest Reserve Area

The reserve consists of all of the waters of Tangier Sound enclosed by a line beginning at a point defined by Lat. 38°12.347' N, Long. 75°54.217' W, then running 316° True to a point at or near Lat. 38°12.685' N, Long. 75°54.627' W, then running 80° True to a point at or near Lat. 38°12.781' N, Long. 75°53.945' W, then running 74° True to a point at or near Lat. 38°12.829' N, Long. 75°53.731' W, then running 106° True to a point at or near Lat. 38°12.708' N, Long. 75°53.180' W, then running 228° True to a point at or near Lat. 38°12.401' N, Long. 75°53.608' W, then running 264° True to the point of beginning.

**PURPOSE OF THIS OPENING**

The area was planted in 2016 with spat-on-shell and recent survey work shows the presence of market-sized oysters. Using the biological criteria of Natural Resources Article, §4-1009.1, Annotated Code of Maryland, the Department has concluded the area may be opened subject to the conditions in this notice. This opening allows for the harvest of those oysters which were planted in consultation with the Somerset County Oyster Committee.

**HARVEST CONDITIONS FOR THIS AREA**

- Minimum Size
  - The minimum size is 3 inches from hinge to bill.
- Maximum Size
  - There is no maximum size.
- Only the following gear types are allowed in this area:
  - Shaft (hand) tong
  - Patent tong
  - Dive
- Catch Limit
  - The commercial catch limit per license per day is 12 bushels, not to exceed 24 bushels per boat per day.
  - The recreational catch limit is 100 oysters per person per day.
- Open Season
  - The season is open from January 2, 2020 through and including March 31, 2020.
  - The season is closed all other dates.
- Days of the Week That an Individual May Catch Oysters
  - Individuals catching oysters for commercial purposes may only catch oysters on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday.
  - Individuals catching oysters for recreational purposes may only catch oysters on Tuesday and Friday.

- Catch Times
  - Individuals catching oysters for commercial purposes may only catch oysters from sunrise to 3 p.m.
  - Individuals catching oysters for recreational purposes may only catch oysters from sunrise to 12 p.m.

**WHO THIS NOTICE AFFECTS**

This opening applies to all individuals who catch oysters recreationally or commercially.

**EFFECTIVE DATE**

The opening is effective January 2, 2020.

**AUTHORITY**

Code of Maryland Regulations 08.02.04.13

Code of Maryland Regulations 08.02.04.14

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Fishing and Boating Services at 410-260-8302

Jeannie Haddaway-Riccio  
Secretary of Natural Resources